

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NEW ABC LAW CUTS RED TAPE FOR LICENSEES THAT WAREHOUSE WINE**

**Sacramento** – A bill signed by Governor Davis on September 6<sup>th</sup> will simplify the regulatory requirements for ABC licensed businesses that use public warehouses to store wine.

Senate Bill 1774 (Chesbro) in effect eliminates the requirement that manufacturers, importers or wholesalers have separate warehouse licenses when wine is being received, stored in, or delivered from public warehouses. After January 1, 2003, only one license, the place of business of the manufacturer, importer or wholesaler, will be required. Licensees will still be required to keep records of where the wine is stored.

ABC Acting Director Jerry R. Jolly says, “The change reflects the reality of the business practices in use today. The new law should save the wine industry and the Department both time and resources in the application process involving the warehousing of wine.”

Jolly says out-of-state businesses will still be required to maintain a warehouse license when their wine is received, stored, or shipped from public warehouses in California.

For the many California manufacturers, importers or wholesales who currently have to maintain these separate licenses at public warehouses, this new legislation should help them reduce administrative paperwork and improve their business operation.

Jolly commended State Senator Wesley Chesbro (D-Arcata) for working with the industry and ABC in developing this legislation to reduce, simplify, and streamline the regulatory process.